

Message Text

PAGE 01 KATHMA 00845 151245Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-10 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 USIA-06
/085 W

-----023097 160051Z /14

R 151051Z FES 78
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1075
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 0845

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PERP, NP, MG
SUBJECT: VISIT OF MONGOLIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

1. MONGOLIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MONGALYAN DUGERSUREN DEPARTED KATHMANDU FEB. 14 AT CONCLUSION OF FIVE DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO NEPAL. DUGERSUREN WAS GREETED BY FONMIN ARYAL ON ARRIVAL IN LOW KEY CEREMONY. ONLY DIPLOMATS PRESENT WERE GDR AMBASSADOR AND CHARGES OF USSR, POLAND AND DPRK. THERE WERE TWO HOURS OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN TWO SIDES SPREAD OVER TWO DAYS. GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED DAILY "RISING NEPAL" HEADLINED THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED "TO EXPAND MUTUAL CONTACTS" BUT STORY CITED POSSIBLE CULTURAL EXCHANGES AS ONLY EXAMPLE OF THIS EXPANSION. AT DINNER HOSTED BY ARYAL FOR DUGERSUREN THERE WAS MENTION OF "SHARED CONCERN FOR PEACE", BUT DESPITE REFERENCES TO FACT THAT GON HAD EXPLAINED ITS ZONE OF PEACE CONCEPT, THERE WAS NO REPEAT NO INDICATION OF MONGOLIAN ENDORSEMENT THEREOF. FINALLY, AT RECEPTION HOSTED BY MONGOLIANS NOT ONE GON MINISTER WAS TO BE SEEN (REPORTEDLY THEY WERE ALL IN FAR WEST FOR CABINET MEETING WITH KING). DUGERSUREN VISIT WAS LINKED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WITH TRIP WHICH LATE KING MAHENDRA MADE TO
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PAGE 02 KATHMA 00845 151245Z

MONGOLIA IN 1961 AND FOREIGN MINISTER ARYAL WAS INVITED TO VISIT MONGOLIA.

2. ONE POINT THAT WAS CITED BY ARYAL IN HIS DINNER SPEECH WAS FACT THAT TWO COUNTRIES SHARED EXPERIENCE AS LANDLOCKED AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES (LL/GDS). ONE PRESS EDITORIAL CARRIED THIS SIMILARITY ONE STEP FURTHER BY NOTING BOTH COUNTRIES BORDERED BY MUCH LARGER NEIGHBORS WHO DID NOT ENJOY FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER. THERE WAS NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT THIS "SHARED" STATUS WAS CARRIED FURTHER

IN TERMS OF POLICY INITIATIVES. MOREOVER, MONGOLIANS TOLD
CHARGE THAT THEIR LL/GDS POSITION NOT SAME AS NEPAL'S IN
THAT MONGOLIA NOT ONLY HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW BUT
HAD RAIL LINK WITH TRANS-SIBERIAN RR WHICH REMOVED ANY PROBLEMS
WITH EXPORTS/IMPORTS.

3. COMMENT: VISIT WAS CLEARLY OF LIMITED SIGNIFICANCE TO GON,
WITH BIGGEST CONCERN BEING HOW TO FILL THE MINISTER'S TIME.
FONMIN SOURCES CONFIRM THAT VIRTUALLY NOTHING OF SUBSTANCE
ACHIEVED-OR EXPECTED--NOTING OBJECTIVE WAS ONLY "GOOD WILL".
EAVES

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